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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

ALDERLEY EDGE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1948.



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1948.

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Staff:

Medical Officer of Health:

D.G. ANDERSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

J.B.BROWN, M.S.I.A. ++

(from February, 1948)

++ Holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Clerical: (to 4th July, 1948)

Medical Officer's Office - Mrs. E.D.Somerville.

(From 5th July, 1948 - combined clerical staff for Divisional
Medical and County District Medical purposes).

ALDERLEY EDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

11th October, 1949.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ALDERLEY EDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Watson and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1948. The variations in vital statistics for the year as such that they can be explained by chance.

On July 5th, 1948, the National Health Service Act came into operation, and in this County a divisional system of administration leading to co-ordination of environmental and personal health service at the officer level. The scheme has not been in operation long enough to comment upon it so far as the year 1948 is concerned.

I would like to thank Members for their interest during the year, and also the Clerk to the Council for his ever willing co-operation.

Mr. Brown, your second full-time Sanitary Inspector, took up duties during the year, and the value of a full-time appointment continues to be apparent.

Yours faithfully,

D.G.ANDERSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	699
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid 1948)	3,580
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to rate books	1,199
Rateable value (end of 1948)	£35,211
Sum represented by a penny rate (estimated)	£135
Social Conditions: The entire district is residential in character.	

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR. (after correction for inward and outward transfers as furnished by the Registrar General).

Live Births.	Total.	Males.	Females.
Total	61	37	24
Legitimate	60	37	23
Illegitimate	1	0	1
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			17.04
Illegitimate births per 1,000 live births			17

Still Births.	Total.	Males.	Females.
Total	3	1	2
Legitimate	3	1	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births			47.6
Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			0.84

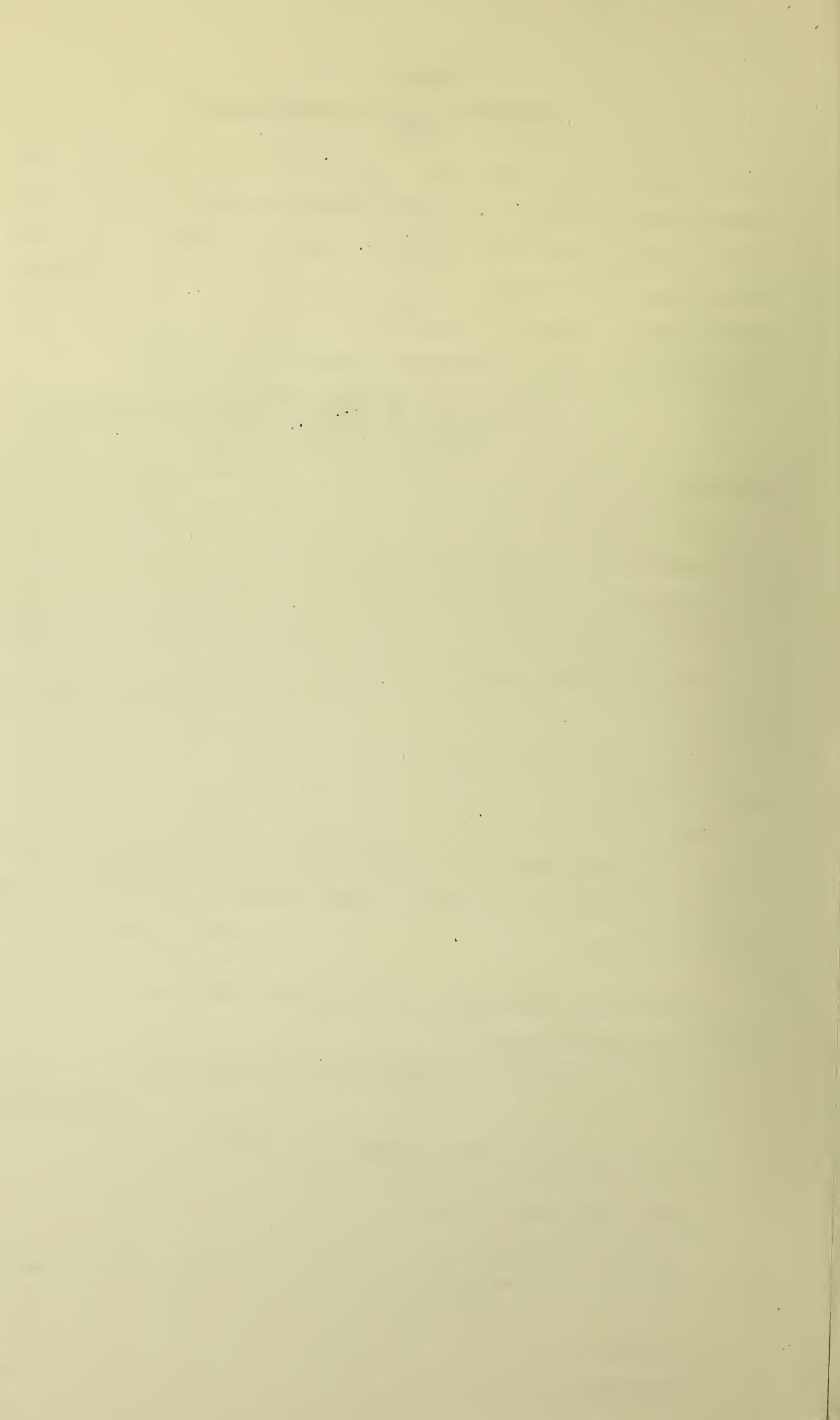
Deaths (All Causes)	Total.	Males.	Females.
	41	13	28
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			11.5

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):—

	Deaths.	Death rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.
No.29 - Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	-	-
No.30 - Other Maternal Causes	-	-
Total Maternal Causes	-	-

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.	Total.	Males.	Females.
Total	1	1	0
Legitimate	1	1	0
Illegitimate	0	0	0



Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

Comparison with England and Wales.

		Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality.
Alderley Edge Urban District	...	17.04	11.5	0	16
England and Wales	....	17.9	10.8	1.02	34

Deaths from certain Special Causes:-

Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	...	...	...	...	...	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Influenza (all ages)	..	...	...	...	...	...	0
Pneumonia (all ages)	..	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis: Pulmonary (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

There have not been any cases of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area. There is no evidence of any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA:

(a) Staff.

A list of the staff is given at the beginning of the Report.

Duties:--

The Medical Officer of Health is restricted from private practice, and is Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Alderley Edge, Cheadle and Gatley, and Wilmslow. Up to the 4th July, 1948, he was also Medical Adviser to the North Cheshire Joint Hospital Board and, by arrangement with the Cheshire County Council, Clinical Medical Officer to certain of the County Council Child Welfare Centres. From the 5th July, 1948, in place of these latter appointments he is Divisional Medical Officer for the Cheadle & Wilmslow Divisional Health Committee - the boundaries of which coincide with his area as Medical Officer of Health, and also with the Education Division.

The Sanitary Inspector is full time in the employment of the Council, and is also Rodent Officer, by arrangement with the County Council, and is responsible for the removal and disposal of house refuse including salvage.

(b) Laboratory Facilities:

During the year the main laboratory was transferred from the University of Manchester to the Regional Public Health Laboratory at Monsall, and most of the work is carried out there, but the Stockport Infirmary Pathological Department and the Pathological Laboratory, Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport, are still available.

The Public Health Laboratory service now undertakes all the examinations free of cost to the Council, where required for the prevention, ascertainment or control of infectious diseases.

(c) Ambulance Facilities:

One ambulance was maintained by the Council up to the 4th July, 1948.

From the 5th July the service was taken over by the Cheshire County Council, and is administered at the Divisional level. During the day two ambulances are stationed at Wilmslow, and at night one of these ambulances is garaged at Alderley Edge, the ambulance driver residing next door to the ambulance. At Cheadle there are two ambulances maintained by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, who carry out the service on a contract basis.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics: No change.

(e) Nursing in the home: No change - except that from the 5th July, 1948, the control of the service is in the hands of the County Council, and not under the control of Voluntary Committees.

(f) Hospitals, Public and Voluntary:

The change on the 5th July, 1948, has so far made little difference in regard to the hospitals which are utilised for the district.

SECTION C:

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA:

(a) Water Supply:

The water is supplied by the Stockport Corporation Water Department, and the supply has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity. No bacteriological examination has been made by this Authority during the year, but weekly samples are taken by the Water Department of the filtered and treated water for examination, and of the rain water monthly, for chemical and bacteriological examination. A report of one such analysis is attached to this Report.

I am indebted to Mr. Dearden, the Engineer of the Water Department, Stockport, for the following information:-

"The supply to Alderley Edge is from the Kinder source, which is in the parish of Hayfield, and is from upland sources. The boreholes at Alderley Edge have not been used for some time but are kept as a standby supply. The service reservoir for the Kinder supply is on Alderley Edge.

The analyses are taken as the water is put into supply from the Works and there has been no individual sampling from the main.

There is no liability to plumbo-solvent action, the total hardness being 4.9".

All houses are supplied from the mains.

(b) Public Cleansing and Scavenging:

This is dealt with in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(c) Sanitary Inspection of the Area:

The following is the Sanitary Inspector's Report on his work during the year. It is a bare statement and I am very satisfied with the work done since Mr. Brown's appointment in February, 1948.

ALDERLEY EDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ALDERLEY EDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Watson and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my first annual report on the work of the Health Department during the year 1948.

My predecessor, Mr. W.A.Barker, the Council's first full-time Sanitary Inspector, during his short period of office, did much valuable work and my duties have been facilitated by this fact.

During the year 19 privy middens were abolished, 10 pail closets and 9 water closets were substituted, leaving only one privy midden in the urban area. Essential repairs to houses have been executed but no routine inspections have been made for proposed clearance areas. The Council's excellent progress in building new houses has effectively remedied any overcrowding in the district.

I take this opportunity of thanking you for your support and consideration, also of expressing my appreciation for the help and guidance of the Medical Officer of Health.

I have the honour to be,

Yours obediently,

JAMES B. BROWN.

Sanitary Inspector.

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SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Classification.	Total No. of inspect- ions and re-visits.	Informal Notices Served.	Statutory Notices Served.	Completed Work.
Accumulations of Refuse.	34	3	-	3
Bakehouses.	19	3	-	3
Butchers Shops.	32	1	-	1
Caravans.	1	1	-	1
Conversions.	24	19	-	19
Council Houses.	35	-	-	-
Drainage.	40	8	-	8
Dustbins.	49	18	9	20
Dwellings (Public Health Act).	56	19	-	18
Dwellings (Housing Act).	77	11	-	12
Diphtheria Immunisations.	75	-	-	-
Factories.	42	9	-	9
Farms and Dairies.	28	4	-	4
Fish Frying.	2	-	-	-
Ice Cream Premises.	13	-	-	-
Infectious Diseases.	2	-	-	-
Keeping of Animals.	17	1	-	1
Overcrowding Enquiries.	8	-	-	-
Outworkers.	6	-	-	-
Other Food Premises S.13 (Food & Drugs Act).	61	4	-	3
Rodent Control.	60	-	-	-
Sanitary Accommodation.	9	2	-	1
Schools.	8	1	-	1
Shops.	40	-	-	-
Smoke Nuisances.	1	-	-	-
Verminous Premises.	37	1	-	1
Workplaces.	2	-	-	-
Yard Surfaces.	8	1	1	1
Miscellaneous.	277	-	-	-
TOTAL:	1063	106	10	106

Public Cleansing:

Refuse Collection:

It has been possible during the year to maintain a weekly collection of refuse which is carried out by a Bantam Karrier vehicle with a team of three men, including the driver.

Refuse Disposal:

During March the Council's tip on Wilmslow Road was filled and the surface was covered with soil at a cost of over £100. Sub-marginal land has thus been reclaimed for agricultural purposes by controlled tipping. Tipping was commenced in March on a site adjoining the old tip and this should be available until September 1949. During the year approximately 550 loads of refuse weighing approximately 860 tons have been disposed of by controlled tipping.

Salvage:

The Board of Trade's target figure of 1 ton of paper per 1,000 of the population has easily been passed. Collection is undertaken by the birmen, to whom an incentive bonus is paid, and by a fortnightly collection at trade premises. Despite satisfactory returns, and propaganda, far too much paper is finding its way to the tip where its recovery is either uneconomical or impossible.

Paper sold to Licenced Dealers:

Year.	Weight.			Value.		
	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.
1947:	33.	0.	0.	221.	6.	6.
1948:	38.	18.	3.	248.	18.	6.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk:

Class of Milk.	Number of samples.	Methylene Blue.		Coliform.		Methylene.		Phosphatase.		Tuberculosis.	
		P.+	F.+	P.+	F.+	P.+	F.+	P.+	F.+	Negative.	Positive.
Raw											
Designated Milk.	9	7	2	8	1	-	-	-	-	8	-
Heat treated Milk.	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	4	-
Total:	13	7	2	8	1	4	-	4	-	12	-

+ P = passed. F = failed.

Ice Cream Sampling:

Three samples were taken from three registered manufacturers in the district. All these samples satisfied the Methylene Blue Reduction Test and were Graded I.

Food Surrendered:

Class of Food.	Reason for condemnation.	Weight.
Butter.	Rancidity and mould.	28 lbs.
Tinned Fruit.	Blown.	9 lbs.
Tinned Fish.	Blown.	7 lbs.
		<u>44 lbs.</u>

Meat Inspection:

Three pigs were killed in the district, and a post-mortem inspection revealed one to be affected with localised tuberculosis, and part of the carcass - weight 12 lbs. - was surrendered.

Rodent Control:

The Council employs a trained part-time operative and the following premises were successfully treated during the year:-

<u>Class of Premise.</u>	<u>No. of Treatments.</u>
Council Properties	6
Council's Sewers	2
Business Premises	13
Private Houses	8
Total:	<u>29</u>

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SECTION D: HOUSING.

Existing Houses:- As stated in the last Report, a systematic inspection was commenced in 1946. 133 inspections were carried out during 1948 and a considerable amount of work was done under informal notices.

With the housing of "homeless" applicants it was hoped that action under the Housing Acts would be possible, but this has not materialised.

New Houses since Termination of Hostilities:-

	<u>At 31.12.47.</u>	<u>At 31.12.48.</u>
<u>Council:</u>		
Houses completed.	132	172
Houses under construction.	49	25
Houses for which tenders were let but not yet commenced.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total:	<u>181</u>	<u>197</u>
<u>Private Enterprise:</u>		
Houses completed.	11	13
Houses under construction.	2	-
Houses for which licences had been issued but not yet commenced.	<u> </u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>

SECTION E: Inspection and Supervision of Food:

(a) Milk Supply: See Sanitary Inspector's Report. The proportion of satisfactory results is a good one compared with other areas.

(b) Meat and Other Foods: See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(c) Adulteration: The Authority under the Food & Drugs Act is the County Council, and I am indebted to the District Inspector, Mr. F.J.Parkins, for the following information:-

Year ending 31st December, 1948:

6 samples of milk, none of which was reported against.

SECTION F: PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

(a) General:- The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the year:-

Scarlet Fever	1
Whooping Cough	3
Measles	22
Pneumonia	1

(b) Tuberculosis:- Notified - 2 pulmonary (Male).
Deaths - 1 non pulmonary (Female).

(c) Laboratory Examinations:- The following table shows the specimens dealt with at the various laboratories.

Diphtheria	1 negative.
Haemolytic streptococci	1 negative.
Sputum	1 positive. 15 negative.

